

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2621

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, TU

SUBJ: PRESS CONFERENCE BY JUSTICE PARTY SENATOR KAMRAN INAN

AFTER RETURN FROM NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
IN WASHINGTON

REF: ANKARA 2584

1. JUSTICE PARTY SENATOR KAMRAN INAN TOGETHER WITH REPUBLICAN
PEOPLES PARTY DEPUTY ENGIN UNSAL HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE
APRIL 1 UPON RETURN FROM THE RECENT NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY
MILITARY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING IN WASHINGTON. INAN MADE
THE FOLLOWING POINTS REGARDING U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE
CUTOFF AND ITS EFFECTS ON NATO AND USG-GOT SECURITY
RELATIONS:

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A. TURKEY'S "GENTLEMANLY, COOL-HEADED" REACTION TO THE AID

CUTOFF WAS NOT RPT NOT PROPERLY APPRECIATED IN THE U.S., WHERE IT WAS INTERPRETED AS WEAKNESS ON PART OF TURKEY.

B. TURKEY COULD EASILY MAKE UP FROM HER OWN RESOURCES THE PRESENT (PRE-CUTOFF) ANNUAL GRANT AID LEVEL OF 40 MILLION DOLLARS.

C. U.S. "EMBARGO" WAS IN CONTRAVENTION OF ARTICLE III OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY AND ARTICLE XXI OF THE DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN TURKEY AND USA. "IF CONGRESS AIMS AT STRIPPING THE USA OF SUCH AGREEMENTS BY MEANS OF DECISIONS SUCH AS THE EMBARGO, THEN ONE HAS TO DOUBT THE CREDIBILITY OF THE USA. IF THE USA DECIDES AGAINST PAYING HER COMMITMENT IN NATO TOMORROW, CONGRESS CAN WELL IMPOSE AN EMBARGO ON THE AMERICAN COMMITMENTS TOWARD THE ALLIANCE. THIS FOR ITS PART WOULD DESTROY THE FOUNDATION OF THE ALLIANCE."

D. NONE OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS AT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING APPROVED OF U.S. EMBARGO AND "NORWEGIAN, DUTCH AND GERMAN DEPUTIES TOOK A THREATENING ATTITUDE ABOUT THE EMBARGO DECISION."

E. TURKEY HAD NOT RPT NOT PUBLICIZED HER CAUSE PROPERLY AND (SOME) CONGRESSMEN WHO "IMPOSED" EMBARGO BUT WHO WERE SYMPATHETIC TO TURKISH STANCE APPEARED TO BE LACKING INFORMATION ABOUT CYPURS PROBLEM.

F. INAN SUGGESTED THAT TURKEY MUST COOPERATE WITH EUROPE ON DEFENSE AND "IMMEDIATELY" START REVISING BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE USA. THE INSTALLATIONS USED FOR AMERICAN INTERESTS MUST BE DISBANDED IN A WAY TO HARM NATO THE LEAST.

G. INAN EXPRESSED PESSIMISM ABOUT THE FUTURE OF TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS, CONSIDERING THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD PROBABLY BE CHANGED IN THE 1976 ELECTIONS AND THAT "IT WOULD COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY WITH CONGRESS."

2. COMMENT: SENATOR INAN IS STRONG SUPPORTER OF NATO
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AND LONG-TERM FRIEND OF U.S. HSI PRESS CONFERENCE, HOWEVER, WAS A PUBLIC STATEMENT AND REFLECTS FACT THAT NO TURKISH POLITICIAN TODAY WOULD BE DISPOSED TO DEFEND U.S. POLICY VIS-A-VIS TURKEY OR SUGGEST THAT ANY PART OF BLAME FOR PRESENT SITUATION BE PLACED UPON TURKEY. AMBASSADOR TALKED WITH SENATOR INAN PRIVATELY AND LEARNED THAT INAN WAS PLEASED WITH HIS MEETINGS WITH SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN WHILE IN U.S.

FOR SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING AND NOT RPT NOT AS DISCOURAGED ABOUT
FUTURE OF USG-GOT RELATIONS AS PRESS CONFERENCE WOULD
INDICATE. HOWEVER, INAN AND MANY OTHER INFLUENTIAL TURKS ARE
HIGHLY INDIGNANT OVER PERCEIVED U.S. MISREADING OF TURKISH
RESTRAINT IN REACTION TO U.S. "EMBARGO".
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